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November 5, 2003

The U. S. Securities and Exchange Commission 450 Fifth Street, N. W. Room 3117
Office of International Corporate Finance Mail Stop 3-9
Washington, D.C.20549
U. S. A.



Rule 12g3-2(b) Exemption of Kobe Steel, Ltd., File number:82-3371



Dear Madam/Sir:

In connection with Kobe Steel Ltd.'s exemption pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) from the registration and reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and in compliance with its ongoing requirements under Rule 12g3-2(b)(iii), please find enclosed a copy of the Company's release today covering

"ISSUANCE OF DOMESTIC UNSECURED YEN BONDS"

Thank you for your assistance in handling it as required.

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Sincerely yours,

Kanako Nakagawa Finance Department Kobe Steel, Ltd. DD 11/17

31 October 2003 Koshi Mizukoshi President, Chief Executive Officer & Representative Director Kobe Steel, Ltd. (Tokyo Stock Exchange Code No. 5406) Contact: Communication Center Kobe Steel, Ltd.

> Tel: Tokyo 03-5739-6010 Kobe 078-261-4040

ISSUANCE OF DOMESTIC UNSECURED YEN BONDS

Kobe Steel, Ltd. hereby gives notice that it has decided to issue Domestic Unsecured Yen Bonds under the terms as set forth below:

Domestic Unsecured Yen Bonds due 14 November, 2008

1. Name: Kobe Steel, Ltd.

Series 40 Unsecured Bonds

(Limited Inter-Bond Pari Passu Clause)

2. Total Amount of Issue: 10 Billion Yen

3. Denomination of Bond: 100,000,000 Yen each

4. Interest Rate: 1.22% per annum of the principal of the Bonds

5. Issue Price: 100% of the principal amount of the Bonds

6. Redemption Price: 100% of the principal amount of the Bonds

7. Maturity Date: To be redeemed in a lump sum on 14 November 2008

8. Offering Period: 31 October 2003

9. Closing Date: 14 November 2003

10. Method of Issue: Public offering in the domestic market

11. Date of Payment of

Interest on the Bonds: Semiannually on 14 May and 14 November

12. Status of the Bonds: Unsecured by assets or guarantees

13. Fiscal Agent: Mizuho Corporate Bank, Limited

14. Underwriters: Nikko Citigroup Limited

Use of Proceeds: To be applied toward repayment of loans and/or

redemption of bonds